

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-224. (Canceled)

225. (New) A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber,
comprising:

receiving, via a processor of a library unit, a request for an electronic book from
an electronic book ordering site, wherein the library unit has an identification (library ID),
and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that
has a viewer identification (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book from an operation center;

upon a determination that a status of an account associated with the electronic
book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized
viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code from the operation
center to the library unit, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the
requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, wherein one of the at
least two unique ID numbers matches the library ID and another of the at least two
unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local
authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic
book;

receiving, at the library unit, the data signal and the local authorization code;

storing the received authorization code;

transmitting the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and

at the electronic book viewer,

decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

displaying pages of the electronic book;

storing the electronic book in a memory, and

controlling viewing of the electronic book via a control panel of the electronic book viewer,

wherein the electronic viewer is separate from the library unit and communicates with library unit via a wired or wireless interface.

226. (New) The method of claim 225, wherein the library unit further comprises an external interface to an external receiver, the external receiver receiving the data, the external interface transmitting the data to the library unit.

227. (New) The method of claim 226, wherein the external receiver is a television receiver.

228. (New) The method of claim 226, wherein the external receiver is a radio receiver.

229. (New) The method of claim 226, wherein the external receiver is a spread spectrum receiver.

230. (New) The method of claim 226, wherein the external receiver is a modem.

231. (New) The method of claim 225, wherein the steps of receiving, communicating, transmitting, and storing the local authorization code are performed by a set top terminal operably connected to a television, and wherein the step of receiving the data signal receives broadcast television program signals, the data signal multiplexed with the television program signals, the method further comprising demultiplexing the data signal and the television program signals.

232. (New) The method of claim 225, wherein the steps of receiving, transmitting, storing the local authorization code, and communicating are performed by a smart card incorporated into a digital television, and wherein the step of receiving the data signal receives broadcast television program signals, the data signal multiplexed with the television program signals, the method further comprising demultiplexing the data signal and the television program signals.

233. (New) The method of claim 225, wherein the steps of receiving the data signal, communicating, transmitting, and storing the local authorization code are performed by a smart card incorporated into a digital television, and wherein the digital television comprises a receiver that receives broadcast television program signals.

234. (New) The method of claim 233, wherein the digital television further comprises a demultiplexer that demultiplexes the received digital broadcast television program signals and the data signal.

235. (New) The method of claim 225, wherein the steps of receiving the data signal, communicating, transmitting and storing the local authorization code are performed in a personal computer.

236. (New) The method of claim 235, wherein the personal computer further comprises a connector that couples the personal computer to a digital television, the digit television comprising a second receiver that receives the digital broadcast television program signals and the data signal, and wherein the personal computer sends the data signal and the local authorization code to decrypt the data signal.

237. (New) The method of claim 236, wherein the connector is one of a radio frequency connector, an infra red connector and a wired connector.

238. (New) The method of claim 237, wherein the wired connector comprises RS-232 connections and an RS-232 cable.